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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: R. MAEDA et al.

DEC 11 2001

Serial No.: 09/893,703

TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

Group Art Unit: 2838

Filed: June 29, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY ELECTRODE, METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME AND ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 7, 2001

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached along with a European Search Report.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.



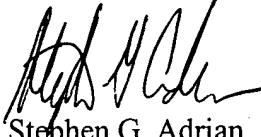
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The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,  
McLELAND & NAUGHTON, LLP



Stephen G. Adrian  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 32,878

Atty. Docket No. 010829  
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20006  
Tel: (202) 659-2930  
Fax: (202) 887-0357  
SGA/arf

Enclosures: PTO-1449, 4 references and European Search Report